



DOCKET NO.: 202451US0

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



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RE: Application Serial No.: 09/768,284  
Applicants: Hiroaki MORI et al  
Filing Date: January 25, 2001  
For: PRODUCTION PROCESS OF INDENE  
Group Art Unit: 1764 Allowed: July 30, 2004  
Examiner: Tam NGUYEN

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**PTO COVER LETTER  
COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINER'S STATEMENT  
OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Our check in the amount of -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
Hiroaki MORI et al : GROUP ART UNIT: 1764  
SERIAL NO.: 09/768,284 : EXAMINER: Tam NGUYEN  
FILED: January 25, 2001 : ALLOWED: July 30, 2004  
FOR: PRODUCTION PROCESS OF INDENE

COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINER'S  
STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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SIR:

In the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability mailed July 30, 2004, the Examiner states:

"The primary reason for allow [sic] is that no prior art of record discloses or suggests a process of moving benzonitrile from an indene-containing coal tar distillate by adding a solvent selected from glycol, dialkyl carbonates, alkylene carbonates, or diaryl carbonates to the distillate in an azeotropic distillation zone."

However, the Examiner fails to comment on Claims 3-6, which are directed to  
“extractive distillation” rather than the “azeotropic distillation” of Claims 1 and 2.

Respectfully submitted,

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